

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously presented) A method, for use with an inkjet device, of printing an area of a substrate in a plurality of passes using curable ink, the method comprising depositing a first pass of ink on the area;

partially curing ink deposited in the first pass such that an exposed surface of the partially cured ink is in non-solidified form;

depositing a second pass of ink on the area; and

fully curing the ink on the area.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the partial curing step is such that an exposed surface of the partially cured ink is in substantially liquid or gel form.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the exposed surface of the partially cured ink is prevented from solidifying by oxygen inhibition.

5. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the partial curing step effects at least partial curing of the ink adjacent the substrate.

6. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the partial curing step effects at least partial curing of the ink such that the partially cured ink is stable after a period of minutes.

7-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the step of partially curing the ink is effected by a first device and the step of fully curing the ink is effected by a second device wherein the location of the first device is separate from the location of the second device.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the ink comprises radiation curable ink, preferably UV curable ink.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 12 wherein the wavelength of the radiation used in the partial curing step is greater than about 370 nm, preferably approximately between 380 nm and 420 nm, and more preferably approximately between 385 nm and 400 nm.

15. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the fully curing step comprises providing an inerting or low oxygen environment.

16-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the partially cured or partially solidified ink is such that at least a part of the ink can be displaced by rubbing.

26-27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the first pass of ink is such that it is substantially wetted by ink of the second pass.

29. (Original) A method, for use with an inkjet device, of printing an area of a substrate in a plurality of passes using ink, the method comprising
depositing a first pass of ink on the area; and
substantially immobilising the ink on the area,
wherein the immobilised ink is such that it is substantially wettable by ink of a subsequent pass.

30-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising
emitting the ink using a printer carriage having one or more printheads;
at least partially curing the emitted ink using a first radiation source; and
substantially fully curing the ink using a second radiation source,
wherein the first radiation source for partially curing the ink is arranged to move with the one or more printheads, and the second radiation source for substantially fully curing the ink is arranged such that the one or more printheads can move relative to such radiation source.

34-35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising emitting radiation from a light emitting diode (LED) towards the ink.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Original) Apparatus for an inkjet device, for use in printing an area of a substrate in a plurality of passes using curable ink, comprising:

a printhead arranged to deposit a first pass of ink on the area;
means for partially curing the ink deposited on the area;
a printhead arranged to deposit a second pass of ink on the area; and
means for fully curing the ink on the area.

39. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 38, wherein the means for partially curing the ink is adapted to partially cure the ink such that an exposed surface of the partially cured ink is in non-solidified form.

40. (Original) Apparatus according to Claim 39, wherein the means for partially curing the ink is adapted to partially cure the ink such that an exposed surface of the partially cured ink is in substantially liquid or gel form.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 38 wherein the means for partially curing the ink is adapted to at least partially cure the ink adjacent the substrate.

43-46. (Canceled)

47. (Previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 38 wherein the means for partially curing the ink is separate from the means for fully curing the ink.

48-49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 38 comprising a radiation source and means for varying the radiation output of the radiation source so as to vary the level of gloss on the printed ink on the area.

51-67. (Canceled)

68. (Previously presented) Apparatus according to Claim 38, further comprising a light emitting diode (LED) adapted to emit radiation towards the ink.

69-75. (Canceled)

76. (Original) An inkjet device, for printing on an area of a substrate using ink, comprising

a printer carriage having one or more printheads and a radiation source for at least partially curing ink emitted by one or more printheads; and

a radiation source for substantially fully curing the ink,

wherein the radiation source for partially curing the ink is arranged to move with the one or more printheads, and the radiation source for substantially fully curing the ink is arranged such that the one or more printheads can move relative to such radiation source.

77. (Canceled)

78. (Original) An inkjet device according to Claim 76 further comprising a beam movable with respect to the area of the substrate and a printer carriage adapted to move along the beam as well as with the beam,

wherein the radiation source for fully curing the ink and the beam are adapted to be relatively moveable.

79-80. (Canceled)

81. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the partial curing step includes a further step of varying the level of partial cure depending on the rate of printing.

82. (New) A method according to claim 81, wherein the dose of curing radiation applied to a region of ink in the partial curing step is varied so as to vary the level of gloss of the printed ink on the area.